

many countries, like France 75.8% Lithuania 77.2% Korea 41.4% Belgium 55.2% etc. based on IAFA study.

Delegation of SSI Entrepreneurs to USA

*310. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether she lead a delegation of SSI entrepreneurs to USA;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any discussion was held with the Government of USA and other concerned institutions; and
- (d) whether any MOU was signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE):

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) MOS (SSI & ARI) led an official-cum-business delegation of SMEs to USA from 13th February to 18th February, 2000. She was accompanied by two Officers and a nineteen member team from the C.I.I.
- (c) Discussion were held with the US Small Business Administrator. Seminars on India jointly organized by USIBC and CH on business opportunities in India were also attended.
- (d) No, Sir.

Blue Book for LPG Consumers

†*311. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the issuance of Blue Book and its acceptance by the consumers is mandatory at the time of giving new LPG connection;
- (b) whether in transfer cases, the gas agencies can refuse connections to the consumers in the absence of Blue Book inspite of submitting original Transfer Voucher issued by the previous agency;
- (c) whether Government are aware of the fact that Jamshedpur Gas Service,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.